

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: J. Dewey Weaver, III, et al Art Unit : Unassigned
Serial No. : Unassigned Examiner: Unassigned
Filed : Herewith
For : Method and System for Controlling Content to a User

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, DC 20231

Preliminary Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please delete paragraph 28 on page 7 of the specification and replace it with the following paragraph:

[0028] Figure 4 is a flow diagram of an embodiment of the user terminal showing steps for receiving, viewing, and recording content.

In the Claims:

Claim 1, line 2 remains unchanged.

Please renumber claim 1, line 7, and claims 2-25 as follows:

2. (amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
recording a packet tag if a user views the packet at the user terminal.
3. (amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said tagging further comprises:
encrypting the packet.
4. (amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said tagging further comprises:
specifying at least one user serial number; wherein the user serial number is an
identification code corresponding to a particular user terminal; and

reading the packet if the user serial number is specified.

5. (amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the packet comprises a datacast.

6. (amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the user terminal comprises a personal computer (PC).

7. (amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the user terminal comprises a set top box.

8. (amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the packet is in motion picture expert group ("MPEG") format.

9. (amended). The method of claim 4, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet with radio frequency airwaves.

10. (amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet by cable.

11. (amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet by satellite.

12. (amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said tagging further comprises:

encrypting a packet;

specifying at least one user serial number; wherein the user serial number is an identification code corresponding to a particular user terminal; and

de-encrypting a packet on the user terminal if the user serial number is specified.

13. (amended) The method of claim 12, wherein a packet comprises a datacast.

14. (amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the user terminal comprises a personal computer (PC).

15. (amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the user terminal comprises a set top box.

16. (amended) The method of claim 12, wherein a packet is in MPEG format.

17. (amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet with radio frequency airwaves.

18. (amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet by cable.

19. (amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet by satellite.

20. (amended) A system for controlling content sent to a user, comprising:
a broadcast station;
at least one packet in communication with the broadcast station, wherein the at least one packet has content and a packet ID associated therewith and wherein said broadcast station is configured to tag said packet to enable user viewing permission and to send said packet to at least one user terminal.

21. (amended) The system of claim 20, wherein said broadcast station is further configured to encrypt at least one packet.

22. (amended) The system of claim 20, wherein said broadcast station is further configured to specify at least one user serial number to enable the user terminal to view at least one packet if the user serial number is specified, wherein the user serial number is an identification code corresponding to a particular user terminal.

23. (amended) The system of claim 20 further comprising:
a user terminal in communication with said broadcast station for receiving at least one packet;

a user serial number associated with said user terminal, wherein said user serial number is an identification code corresponding to a particular user terminal

a tuner application associated with said user terminal, wherein said tuner application is configured to enable the user terminal to receive and display content associated with at least one packet on a display;

a web portal associated with said user terminal, wherein said web portal is connectable to a server;

wherein said broadcast station is further configured to tag said packet to specify a user serial number; and

wherein said tuner application is further configured to enable viewing of said packet if said packet is tagged to specify said user serial number.

24. (amended) A system for controlling content sent to a user, comprising:
a user terminal;

a tuner application associated with said user terminal, wherein said tuner application is configured to enable the user terminal to receive and display content on a display, wherein the content is received from at least one packet, and a packet has a packet ID associated therewith;

a web portal associated with said user terminal, wherein said web portal is connectable to a server; and

wherein said tuner application is configured to collect information about viewed content and communicate the information to a server.

25. (amended) The system of claim 24, wherein said information includes the content viewed at the user terminal.

26. (amended) The system of claim 24, wherein said information includes the time that content was viewed at the user terminal.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(b), the following replacement paragraphs show all the changes made by the foregoing amendment relative to the previous version of the paragraphs.

Page 7, Paragraph 28:

Figure 4 is a flow diagram of an embodiment of the user terminal showing steps for [fro] receiving, viewing, and recording content.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(c), the following versions of the claims as rewritten by the foregoing amendment show all the changes made relative to the previous versions of the claims.

2. [1] (amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
recording a packet tag if a user views the packet at the user terminal.

3. [2] (amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said tagging further comprises:
encrypting the packet.

4. [3] (amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said tagging further comprises:

specifying at least one user serial number; wherein the user serial number is an identification code corresponding to a particular user terminal; and

reading the packet if the user serial number is specified.

5. [4] (amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the packet comprises a datacast.

6. [5] (amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the user terminal comprises a personal computer (PC).

7. [6] (amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the user terminal comprises a set top box.

8. [7] (amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the packet is in motion picture expert group ("MPEG") format.

9. [8] (amended). The method of claim 4, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet with radio frequency airwaves.

10. [9] (amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet by cable.

11. [10] (amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet by satellite.

12. [11] (amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said tagging further
comprises:

encrypting a packet;

specifying at least one user serial number; wherein the user serial number is an
identification code corresponding to a particular user terminal; and

de-encrypting a packet on the user terminal if the user serial number is
specified.

13. [12] (amended) The method of claim 12, wherein a packet comprises a
datacast.

14. [13] (amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the user terminal
comprises a personal computer (PC).

15. [14] (amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the user terminal
comprises a set top box.

16. [15] (amended) The method of claim 12, wherein a packet is in MPEG
format.

17. [16] (amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet with radio frequency airwaves.

18. [17] (amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet by cable.

19. [18] (amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
broadcasting a packet by satellite.

20. [19] (amended) A system for controlling content sent to a user,
comprising:
a broadcast station;

at least one packet in communication with the broadcast station, wherein the at least one packet has content and a packet ID associated therewith and wherein said broadcast station is configured to tag said packet to enable user viewing permission and to send said packet to at least one user terminal.

21. [20] (amended) The system of claim 20, wherein said broadcast station is further configured to encrypt at least one packet.

22. [21] (amended) The system of claim 20, wherein said broadcast station is further configured to specify at least one user serial number to enable the user terminal to view at least one packet if the user serial number is specified, wherein the user serial number is an identification code corresponding to a particular user terminal.

23. [22] (amended) The system of claim 20 further comprising:

a user terminal in communication with said broadcast station for receiving at least one packet;

a user serial number associated with said user terminal, wherein said user serial number is an identification code corresponding to a particular user terminal
a tuner application associated with said user terminal, wherein said tuner application is configured to enable the user terminal to receive and display content associated with at least one packet on a display;

a web portal associated with said user terminal, wherein said web portal is connectable to a server;

wherein said broadcast station is further configured to tag said packet to specify a user serial number; and

wherein said tuner application is further configured to enable viewing of said packet if said packet is tagged to specify said user serial number.

24. [25] (amended) A system for controlling content sent to a user, comprising:

a user terminal;

a tuner application associated with said user terminal, wherein said tuner application is configured to enable the user terminal to receive and display content on

a display, wherein the content is received from at least one packet, and a packet has a packet ID associated therewith;

a web portal associated with said user terminal, wherein said web portal is connectable to a server; and

wherein said tuner application is configured to collect information about viewed content and communicate the information to a server.

25. [24] (amended) The system of claim 24, wherein said information includes the content viewed at the user terminal.

26. [25] (amended) The system of claim 24, wherein said information includes the time that content was viewed at the user terminal.

Remarks

The above amendment is made in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.115 and filed concurrently with the above-identified application. The amendment is made to correct obvious errors and do not introduce new matter. Specifically, an obvious misnumbering of the claims and a misspelling are corrected.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, he is courteously requested to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

August 3, 2001



A. José Cortina

Reg. No. 28,733

One of the Attorneys for the Applicant

KILPATRICK STOCKTON LLP
3737 Glenwood Avenue, Suite 400
Raleigh, North Carolina 27612
(919) 420-1700 (Telephone)
(919) 420-1800 (Facsimile)

RALLIB01:613068.1